ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method of increasing helical twisting power (HTP) in an optically active compound used in a liquid crystal material is provided. An optically active compound which exhibits a large HTP value is also provided. Furthermore, a liquid crystal composition which exhibits a high upper temperature limit of the liquid crystal after the addition of the optically active compound, and a liquid crystal display device using the same are provided. In a method, an HTP of a compound having a partial structure represented by formula (A), which has an asymmetric carbon atom, is increased by replacing the partial structure represented by formula (A) by a partial structure represented by formula (B).

(wherein * represents the position of an asymmetric carbon atom, Y^1 represents a substituent such as an alkyl group and a halogen).

A compound is represented by formula (I):

$$R^{1}-[A^{1}-Z^{1}]_{n}-A^{2}-E^{1}-[CH_{2}]_{p}-\overset{*}{C}H-[CH_{2}]_{q}-E^{2}-[Z^{2}-A^{3}]_{m}-R^{2}$$
(I)

15

10